Minutes of the College of Business Faculty Meeting  
Monday, August 25, 2008

Present: Dean Abdelsamad, Professors: Benavides, Black, Bland, Byus, Chambers, Changchit, Crowley, Cutshall, Deis, Dube, Elzweig, Fugate, Hall, Hormozi, Klaus, Lee, Loveland, Lucero, Middleton, Mollick, Myers, Ouyang, Peeples, Picou, Polansky, Reed, Sherman, Spencer, Tillinger, Vokurka, Waheeduzzaman, Wingfield, Whitmire, Yoskowitz, Zebda, Zeidan, Ms. Elizondo, Ms. Sterbach, Mr. Navejar (Adjunct faculty.)

Visitors: Dr. Eliot Chenaux, Vice President for Student Affairs; Ms. Ann DeGaish, Assistant Vice president and Dean of Students; Dr. Carla Berkich, Director of the Counseling Center.

Dean Abdelsamad called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM in the COB conference Room and welcomed all back to a new academic year.

Minutes for the March 15, 2008 COB faculty meetings were approved.

Dean Abdelsamad congratulated Dr. Anita Reed on the completion of her Ph.D. degree in accounting and introduced Ms. Helen Sterbach as the new COB Continuous Improvement and Staff Coordinator. Dr. Deis introduced Dr. Rabih Zeidan as a new assistant professor of accounting and Dr. Vokurka introduced Mr. Ryan Navejar as a new adjunct faculty member in economics.

Maintenance of AACSB Accreditation: Dean Abdelsamad confirmed that the team visit for our maintenance of AACSB accreditation will be on January 26 – 28, 2009 and said that, in general, the team will be looking for evidence that we offer quality programs and would also be interested in those aspects of our operations that we do particularly well to be considered as best practices. In addition they will also provide us with consultative advice on how we could improve our programs. Dr. Deis stated that the draft document of our accounting accreditation Self Evaluation Report is almost completed and that it would be circulated for comments early in the semester. He added that the AACSB team visit for our initial accounting accreditation will coincide with the maintenance of accreditation visit but that it would likely last an extra day. Dean Abdelsamad asked faculty to submit comments on the revised draft of the AQ / PQ document directly to him and mentioned the possibility of a retreat to finalize our preparation for the AACSB visit in January of next year.

I-CARE Program: Dr. Chenaux explained that I-CARE is a restructuring of existing programs to streamline various services provided to students. He added that it is a joint effort of the University Police Department, the Counseling Center, and the offices of Student Affairs and Judicial Affairs. Ms. Ann DeGaish asked faculty to be attentive to abrupt changes in student behavior, such as repeated absences from class, signs of alcoholism or substance abuse, disruptive behavior in class, etc, and when warranted to contact the Office of Student Affairs for an I-CARE team response within 24 hours. She stated that for emergencies that require an immediate response faculty should contact the University Police at extension 4444. Dr. Berkich indicated that any student referred to the Counseling Center has the right to confidentiality.
However, she added, if a student discloses to a professor or other university employee information that could endanger the student’s life or the lives of others, the student loses his / her right to confidentiality.

**Summer 2008 MFT Results:** Dr. Vokurka reported that, based on preliminary results, our graduate students scored at the 80th percentile with 30 students, including eight ESLI students taking the MFT. At the undergraduate level our business majors scored at the 70th percentile with 40 of them taking the MFT in summer I, 2008.

**Other Issues:**

- Dean Abdelsamad reminded faculty on the need to go through our Business Coordinator, Ms. Gloria Valdez, when ordering any item funded through a grant.
- The dean also announced a change in the College’s funding for faculty travel.
- He also stated that it is not clear whether the O’Connor name refers to the College of Business or to the building. Faculty expressed preference that it be associated with the new building.
- Dr. Benavides stated that, according to the new policy on academic misconduct, all such incidents are to be reported on a new form and submitted directly to the Office of Student Affairs. He added that under this new process the burden of proof falls on the faculty member.
- Dr. Benavides indicated that for the upcoming SACS reaccreditation we would need to develop a specific learning goal for each of our undergraduate majors.
- Dr. Zebda expressed concern about a COB faculty member’s request for sabbatical leave not being approved for this academic year. Dean Abdelsamad indicated that he is supportive of the sabbatical leave program but that, since we are operating at full capacity and given difficulty to hire academically qualified adjunct faculty, it was not feasible to approve that request on a year when we are expecting our AACSB maintenance of accreditation visit..

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Adolfo Benavides.